

Kindness and Co-operation	Thankfulness	Friendship and Sharing	Respect	Unity	Responsibility
Hope and Peace	Patience and Perseverance	Trust and Honesty	Happiness	Courage	



# Newsletter

Friday 8th December 2023



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

I love this time of year - the weather may have its more gloomy days but the light and brightness in school is warming. As I type I can hear the children practicing the carols for their class assemblies and for the Carols on the Playground in the last week of term and I am sure they will sound just as good when you come to celebrate with us.

It was lovely to see our Christmas tree at the Christmas Tree festival and I am grateful to the staff who gave their time to put this altogether - it was a very vibrant tree and really held its own!

Next Wednesday is our Christmas dinner; children may wear Christmas jumpers if they wish, to add to the occasion. And remember this weekend is the Carol Service at St Swithun's church at 5pm on Sunday. This promises to be a lovely service and I am looking forward to hearing our choir sing - a very busy time of year for them after their fab performance on stage at the Lights Switch on - special thanks to Mrs Vickery-Cox for all her hard work.

I hope you all have a good weekend.



## Parking

We appreciate that there have been a lot of health and safety messages about parking and the use of the car park over the last few weeks and we are grateful to all those who are adhering to the rules to ensure we maintain a safe site for our school community. Whilst incidents of poor parking have reduced there are still a number of parents who are parking outside the school gates in Hawk Drive at drop off and pick up. I want to remind you that there are restrictions in place on both sides of the road: the left hand side as you look at the gates are restricted between 8.30 - 9.00am and 3-4pm Monday to Friday. This means that it is an offence to park there during these times. The local PCSO came to do a walk around last week and we will speak to parents as we see them to remind them but if you see parking that is dangerous to the safety of our community you can also report it to the council on 0300 300 8005 or via email [parking@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:parking@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) - we will be doing likewise where this continues to happen.

If you need to arrange to park in our car park, please contact the office.

## Year 6 Bletchley Park

On Monday, Year 6 enjoyed a trip to Bletchley Park to enrich their learning about World War II.

They took part in a workshop that explored the different codes and ciphers that the men and women working at Bletchley Park would have had to unscramble. They learned about Alan Turing and the Enigma Machine that was used by the Germans. Everyone was astounded at the number of different combinations that were possible - approximately 15,000,000,000,000!



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## Film Maker's Club



North Herts & Beds  
**FilmClub**

What a fantastic 1st term of the lunch time Film Makers Club. It was a pleasure to work with such a great group of children. Their behaviour was outstanding throughout the term. We have completed our Global News & Adverts. We have had 3 Special Awards this term. I look forward to returning to your school with some fantastic Film ideas such as Charlie & The Chocolate Factory, Pirates of the Caribbean, Hogwarts - The Elements of Destruction, Howls Moving Castle & much more. Keep an eye out on parentmail for future bookings.

Congratulations to

Alek - Fantastic delivery of a detailed transport news & excellent at crew roles.

Megan - Excellent at taking direction & confident on set.

Noah - Fantastic delivery of sports news & taking on a detailed script



## A Plea for Spare Clothes

One of the drawbacks to the children coming into school already dressed in their PE kits is that they don't have spares to change into should they have an accident or get wet/muddy outside.

We would appreciate it if you were able to send your child with a spare pair of named bottoms: trousers/skirts/underwear/socks/shoes that they can keep on their peg or locker, preferably in a drawstring bag.

This is in particular for children in the early years, year 1 and year 2.

Please ensure all items are named.



Thank you so very much to everyone who bought books from the book fair. The fair sold a massive £1098.71 pounds worth of books which pushed us into the 50% rewards bracket. That means we now have **£549.36** to spend on new books for school!

Although some of the books could be found a few pounds cheaper online, by supporting the book fair you are helping school massively and for that we are grateful.

This is an incredible amount to spend and I look forward to showing you all the great books that we will be buying across the rest of the year.

# Headteacher Awards

This week the awards are for...

...being an inspiration!



**Fir:**

★ Jacob

**Yew:**

★ Alfie

**Aspen:**

Alex ★

**Rowan:**

Lily-Rae

**Poplar:**

Oliwia

**Juniper:**

Lacie ★

**Sycamore:**

Jayden ★

**Elder:**

Brayleigh-Maie ★

**WELL DONE TO YOU ALL!**

This week's House Winners



**Congratulations!**

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Tuesday 12th December** Reception Christmas assembly 9.15am

**Tuesday 12th December** Rocksteady Concert 2.45pm

**Tuesday 12th December** 2.30 -3.30pm Mulberries drop-ins

**Wednesday 13th December** KS1 Christmas assembly 9.15am

**Thursday 14th December** UKS2 Christmas assembly 9.15am

**Friday 15th December** LKS2 Christmas assembly 9.15am

**Wednesday 13th December** Christmas Dinner (Children may wear Christmas jumpers today)

**Friday 15th December 11am - 12pm** Mulberries drop-ins

**Monday 18th December 3.40pm** Carols on the Playground (weather permitting)

**Tuesday 19th December** Term Ends

**Wednesday 3rd January 2024** INSET day

**Thursday 4th January** Term starts

**Friday 5th January** Pantomime trip to Stevenage

Term dates for **2024-2025** can be found [here](#).

## Attendance Awards

Week beginning 4th December 2023

The best attendance award is presented to:

**Poplar and Rowan class!**

<b>Mulberries</b> 93%	<b>Fir (YR)</b> 92%
<b>Yew (Y1)</b> 95%	<b>Aspen (Y2)</b> 95%
<b>Rowan (Y3)</b> 97% ★	<b>Poplar (Y4)</b> 97% ★
<b>Juniper (Y5)</b> 93%	<b>Elder (Y6)</b> 93%
<b>Sycamore (Y6)</b> 93%	<b>Our target is 97%</b>



# Maple Tree

# Christmas Carol Concert

**Monday 18th December.**

**3:40pm**

Come join us for Christmas carols, straight after school on the main playground.

Everyone is welcome to join us and it will be wonderful to see as many children, parents, carers and grandparents to celebrate this time of year.



**MAPLE TREE**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning. Equality. Achievement. Friendship.

